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SENATOR ALLARD SECURES \$3 MILLION FOR PORTS-TO-PLAINS CORRIDOR

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO), Chairman of the Senate Housing and Transportation Subcommittee, has secured \$3 million for improvements to the Ports-to-Plains Corridor in southeast Colorado in the final version of the transportation authorization bill that emerged from a conference committee on Wednesday. The transportation bill is expected to be approved by the House and Senate by Friday and signed into law by President Bush early next week.

The bill provides \$3 million for improvements to U.S. 287 between Kit Carson and the Oklahoma state line, part of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor.

Senator Allard was a member of the House-Senate Conference Committee that ironed out differences between the U.S. House and Senate versions of the transportation legislation and secured a total of \$110 million for specific transportation projects.

"More than three years of hard work and negotiations on the transportation bill have paid off, with \$3 million specifically directed to the Ports-to-Plains Corridor in Colorado," said Senator Allard. "The Ports-to-Plains Corridor will grow into a vital trade route, connecting ports of entry along the Texas/Mexico border with America's heartland, and bringing economic development to Southeastern Colorado."

"Colorado's transportation needs continue to grow," added Senator Allard. "As a member of the conference committee, I was pleased to be able to secure \$110 million for a long list of critically-needed highway projects throughout Colorado."

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